

Sustainability Committee
Minutes of Meeting

April 13, 2016

Present: Lynn Stoddard, Susannah Everett, Bill Lennon, Shawn Santasiere, Alison Jackman (guest), Virginia Walton (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 5:43 pm by chairperson Stoddard. Introductions were made.

The approval of the February and March meeting minutes were deferred until there is a meeting quorum.

There was discussion about the proposal to move E. O. Smith High School. Before the next meeting Santasiere will research the sustainability of renovating versus building a new school in a new location. Walton or Stoddard will ask Shapiro to provide an update on the status of the proposal at the next meeting. Santasiere will also give a report on the building proposal.

Ali Jackman, Outreach Coordinator for the Clean Energy Communities program, reported that Mansfield has earned another \$10,000 award through Clean Energy Communities. These funds could be applied to an LED bulb exchange. Committee members were agreeable to use the funds for a LED bulb exchange in conjunction with an LED bulb sale. She will coordinate a LED light bulb sale for residents and businesses with TechniArt. Jackman stated that it is helpful to have four volunteers and a staff person assist with the swap. Santasiere volunteered to recruit two high school students to help arrange the swap/sale for a Saturday in September or October as part of their community service requirements. Jackman also spoke about the eeSmarts energy efficiency and clean energy educational program.

Stoddard reported that the Governor's Council on Climate Change, which is charged with moving the State to an 80% reduction in energy consumption, will be meeting on May 5 at 5:30 pm. Stoddard will be facilitating a podcast of the meeting at Eastern CT State University in the J. Eugene Smith Library, Johnson Room. All are welcome to attend.

Walton reported that the Town received three responses to a municipal RFP to install solar panels at the landfill, parking garage and public works garage. It appears that the cost of installing a carport on the parking garage is too costly. Staff will be interviewing all three respondents tomorrow in the hope of meeting Eversource's deadline for the ZREC auction.

Walton reported on the activities of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee: the organic land care workshop series, the compost bin sale, the Middle School food too good to waste challenge and the transfer station food scrap demonstration project.

Future agenda items include reviewing the sustainability matrix that was developed for the elementary schools and discussing it in the context of the E. O. Smith proposal.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Walton